



# The TORCHLIGHT

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## BAP SPORTSFEST 2007 HUGE SUCCESS!

**S**tudents from the Birmingham City Middle and High Schools participated in a special free event during their Spring Break. **Sportsfest 2007** was sponsored by **BAP** along with the **Birmingham City Schools' Athletic Department**. The two day event stressed leadership and sports fundamentals.

The students were given special instruction in volleyball, football, boys' and girls' basketball, weight training and speed and conditioning. There were also special clinics for the coaches from the schools.

During lunch breaks, guest speakers addressed the students. Their messages, though diverse, had one recurring theme — **LEADERSHIP**. We appreciate these people taking time from their busy schedules to come and speak to the attendees. Thanks to our speakers: **Angela Green**, **Channel 13 News** reporter; **Gary Burley**, former NFL standout; **Lee Brooks**, **Jefferson County Commissioners' office**; and BAP Corporate Representative **Robert Beeman**, **Protective Life**. Each of these successful professionals emphasized to the students the importance of accepting responsibility and of taking leadership roles in their schools, churches and communities.

**Birmingham Southern College** was the location for **Leadership Sportsfest 2007**. Special thanks to BSC Athletic Director **Joe Dean, Jr.** and his associates for all of their hard work and dedication in making this event a great learning experience and a fun event for these young people. The willingness of BSC, the coaches and the staff to provide the facilities and the

*(Continued on page 2)*



This event was made possible by the commitment of the BAP Corporate Business Partners: **ACIPCO; Alabama Power Company; AmSouth/Regions Bank; First American Bank; Ligon Industries; Maynard, Cooper and Gale; PriceWaterhouse Coopers; Protective Life; Starnes & Atchison; and VIVA Health**. Thanks for your partnership!

## SPORTSFEST 2007

*Continued from page 1*

hands-on work was exceptional. The outstanding coaches did a great job and all projected a positive image for the College. Thanks to **Kyndall Waters**, Director of Athletic Marketing, for her help with the logistics of Leadership Sportsfest 2007. President **David Pollick** must be proud of the BSC Athletic Department and its very professional staff. Everyone on campus went beyond our expectations.

We are in hopes that we can host this type of event semi-annually for the students. We would like to host a fall event where we can spotlight soccer, softball, baseball and track.

We thank **Scott Wood** and **Aleck Whitherspoon** of **Coca-Cola** for providing complimentary drinks, ice and coolers to keep the athletes hydrated and **Terri Smith** of **Barber's Dairy** who sent their outstanding crew who served complimentary drinks during the days and provided the drinks for lunch. There were lots of thirsts to be quenched!

Thanks to **Charles Matsos** of **Golden Rule Bar-B-Que** for preparing great lunches. Thanks to **Chris Nix** of **Todd & Sons** for the awesome job on the t-shirts that were given to all the kids who attended the event.

Last but not least, thanks to the volunteers who participated by helping with everything — from registration to serving lunch and to those who attended just to show support for the students: **Chris Leech**, **AmSouth/Regions Bank**; **Fred and Jocelyn Stewart**, Hayes and Carver High Schools; Coach **Dexter LeBlanc**, Woodlawn H.S.; **Dr. Sherri Huff** and **Cora Coley**, City Schools' Athletic Department; School Board Member **W. J. Maye**; volleyball coaches **Erroll Gooden** of Carver High School and **Nicole Davis** of Hayes High School (BBBS Big Sister of the Year 2007!); **Ricky Scott**, **ACIPCO**; **LeDon Jones**, **First American Bank**; **Brother Cecil Williams**; **Mike Vest's children**, **Billy and Kayce**, who took time from their own Spring Break to help with the event.



*Attending the "Helping America's Youth" conference by special invitation from the White House were (left to right) BAP Executive Director Michael Vest, Ramsay High senior Katherine Graham, Parker High School senior Robert Cook and BAP President Edgar Welden.*

## OUTSTANDING SENIORS Katherine Graham and Robert Cook Enjoy Special Events

BAP received a special invitation from the White House to attend the "**Helping America's Youth**" conference in Nashville, Tennessee, on April 11-12, 2007. With a guest list of only 200 invitees, It was an honor to be included.

First Lady Laura Bush was the featured speaker. Mrs. Bush leads the "**Helping America's Youth Initiative**" (**HAY**). HAY is a nationwide effort to raise awareness of the challenges facing America's youth, particularly boys. The program is aimed at motivating caring adults to connect with youth in three key areas: family, school and community.

BAP invited representatives from the Birmingham City High Schools to participate in this special conference. Those attending were **Hayes High School** principal **Fred Stewart**; **Woodlawn High School** head football coach **Dexter LeBlanc**; **Carver High School** math teacher **Jocelyn Stewart**; **Ramsay High School** senior **Katherine Graham**; **Parker High School** senior **Robert Cook**, along with **BAP President Edgar Welden** and **BAP Executive Director Michael Vest**.

It was an enlightening meeting and we are in hopes that this initiative will become a wellspring and benefit America's youth.

BAP thanks **Melissa Johnson**, Executive Director of the **President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports** for including us in this program.

Katherine Graham, Senior Ramsay High School, and Robert Cook, Senior Parker High School, were also invited by BAP to attend a luncheon during Vice President Cheney's visit to Birmingham. The two students led the crowd of approximately 500 in the "Pledge of Allegiance".

Katherine and Robert did a great job. These students were confident and respectful as they stood before the crowd.

You can read more about Katherine in this newsletter in the article about her team — The Lady Rams.

Robert was selected MVP of the BAP All-City Team. He was also selected to the 1st Team All-State and 1st Team All-Metro for his excellent football season. He will be attending Grambling in the fall.

BAP is proud of the accomplishments of Katherine and Robert during their high school years. We are in hopes that there will be many opportunities for them to further both their education and their leadership skills.

# IVAN JONES

## Hayes High School Senior Named Bill Gates Millennium Scholar



Congratulations to **Ivan Jones**, trombonist in the **Hayes Mighty Marching Pacesetters**, for being named a **Bill Gates Millennium Scholar**. The scholarship will pay Ivan's college expenses in-full at any college or university of his choosing through the doctoral level.

The Bill Gates Scholarship, established in 1999, provides outstanding minority students with significant financial need the funding to advance and complete their education. Ivan wrote eight essays, completed a 22 page application and submitted references in order to be considered.

Of the 11,000 students nationwide who applied, 1000 were selected.

BAP is proud that one of Birmingham's students has been selected and is being honored with this award.

Ivan plans to study music education and intends to receive his doctoral degree. He believes that along with his academic successes, his extra-curricular activities and his community service contributed to his selection. Did we mention that he has accumulated over 900 hours of community service? Here is a young man who is being rewarded for his hard work scholastically and for giving back to his community.

When Hayes High School was reopened in 2004, BAP and the Community Foundation of Birmingham purchased band equipment to help start the band program and continues to be a resource for them.

BAP congratulates Ivan Jones. We know he will represent the Birmingham community proudly. We wish him the very best as he moves forward, pursuing his education dreams. Good Luck!



*Enjoying a golf outing sponsored by the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame from Ramsay High School are (left to right): Coach Keith Hutcheson, Alexandria Hilliard, Crystal Smitherman, and Mathew Dodson.*

## FORMER BAP ATHLETES

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

### Earl Bennett

*Former West End High School All-Sports Stand-out Makes an Impact at Vanderbilt University*



Earl Bennett, former West End High School all-sports stand-out, has made a huge impact on the football program at Vanderbilt University. Earl received many awards and accolades while at West End and he is continuing that tradition in college.

He was selected for the 2005 SEC All Freshman First Team and the Freshman All-American Second Team. Even though he was not a full-time starter, Earl set a team and SEC

record for most catches as a freshman with 79 receptions.

In 2006, Earl was voted All-SEC Second Team and had another record breaking year with 82 catches for 1,146 yards. He finished the regular season as the SEC's leading receiver in catches and as the first player in league history to record over 75 receptions in back-to-back years.

Earl is listed third in the 2007 *Sporting News* top 25 college football players.

*Congratulations Earl! We wish you continued success on the field and in the classroom.*

### Me'Shala Johnson

*Former Ramsay High School Tennis Star Is MVP of the SWAC Tournament*



Me'Shala Johnson, former Ramsay High School tennis player, did it all herself in 2005. Ramsay did not have a tennis coach. Me'Shala did not let that stop her from continuing to get better each week by practicing and playing the sport, she is passionate about.

Even though she did not have a coach her senior year, she was still able to receive a tennis scholarship to Southern University. She worked hard there and in January transferred to

Alabama A&M where she led the Bulldogs'

tennis team to their first SWAC tennis championship and earned the tournament MVP honor. She also helped her team get a berth to the NCAA Tournament. This was another first time achievement for the school, where they played last year's runner up, Miami, in the first round.

*BAP congratulates Me'Shala and wish her much continued success.*



## BAP BUSINESS PARTNERS PROGRAM

# Music, Band and Weight Equipment Purchased for Carver High School

**T**he Fine Arts and Music Department of **Carver High School** has been winning many awards over the past year. In the All City Christmas Festival 2006, three of the possible five First Chair winners were from Carver. The orchestra garnered a Superior Rating in the All City Band and Orchestra Evaluation for 2006 and 2007.

The Marching Band received Superior Ratings at all of the following events: 2006 Battle of the Bands; Midfield Band Camp; Selma and Pell City Band Competitions and the Montgomery Battle of the Bands.

Even with these awards, the department was in need of a complete sound system for the orchestra and choir department. BAP, with the help of **ACIPCO**, was able to purchase many items: cordless microphones; speakers; mic and speaker stands; a CD recorder and a quality sound board.

We appreciate the help of **Art's Music** in getting these things set up for the students and for **Mrs. Dathia Means**, Carver's choir and orchestra director.

Also, BAP with the help of **ACIPCO**, was able to purchase new weight equipment for the girls' weight room at Carver



*BAP Executive Michael Vest with Mrs. Dathia Means and members of the Carver High School orchestra.*

High School. Weight training has become one of the most important parts of sports training since it provides strength training that helps prevent injury. We appreciate **Wright Weight Equipment's** help in this project.

## Monday Morning Quarterback Club Grant Forms Trainers Intern Program

BAP is grateful to the **Monday Morning Quarterback Club (MMQBC)** and its members for financing and sponsoring our newly established **Trainers Intern Program**.

This important new course was designed to have one student from each high school learn the basics of being a helpful trainer.

The program coordinators are **James Jones** and **Kenneth Davis** from **UAB Sports Medicine/Children's Hospital**.

The interns learned evaluation techniques; treatment; some taping techniques; on the field evaluation; after injury procedures (ice, immobilize, seek further treatment, etc.) as well as received their CPA certification. After the training,

they were prepared to be at football practice to help players.

The interns were taken to the University of Alabama and Auburn University campuses to see how training rooms are run on a daily basis.

Due to the interest shown and the success of this Intern Program, several of the interns have expressed and interest in pursuing a major in Kinesiology in college. With this success and the benefits from the program, BAP plans to reinstate the training for the next season.

The MMQBC also provided the funding for BAP to purchase much needed **hydration systems** for practices and games.

***Thanks so much, Monday Morning Quarterback Club!***

# Friends of Rickwood and BAP Form High School Travel Baseball Team

**B**aseball players from each of the City High Schools were selected to play baseball this summer on a travel team sponsored by the Friends of Rickwood and BAP.

The team comprised of 16 year old and under players, competed with teams in the surrounding counties this summer. The players received coaching and skill improvement through this program. We are in hopes that this program will provide these players with heightened leadership and motivational skills that they can use to improve their individual high school teams next season.

**David Osinski, Steven George and Justin Brillante** coached the team, appropriately named — **The Rickwood Fielders**. David Osinski is the Director of the American Baseball Foundation. Justin Brillante and Steven George played college baseball and work with David at the American Baseball Foundation. BAP appreciates these men giving their time and working with these young players this summer.



*The Rickwood Fielders are: **Antonio Minifield, Daryl Fleming, Jackson Nick, Johnny Steele, Damian Stubbs and Willie White** of Ramsay High School; **Cevin Brown and Cacedric Williams**, Carver High School; **Chris Davis and Marcus Hanby**, Parker High School; **Levonta Edwards**, Hayes High School; **Franklin Jeremy and LaDamian Chancellor** of Huffman High School; **Michael Pruitt, Carlos Richardson and Antonio Wade** of Jackson-Olin High School.*



## BAP Friend & Supporter

# PETE FIELD

In April, **Peter W. Field**, a dear friend of The Birmingham Athletic Partnership passed away. His passing was a loss for his family, friends and the business community. Pete's warmth, grace and intellect are missed by all who knew him.

Pete was a BAP supporter since our inception.

He believed in the BAP Mission and he believed in the future of Birmingham's young people. He lived his life helping and giving back. His last gift to BAP is one that will keep on giving. The BAP Board has established the **Peter W. Field Leadership Scholarship** in his memory.

Pete believed in stepping up, taking challenges, serving and in being a leader. The BAP Board decided that one way to extend Pete's legacy of leadership and responsibility was to establish a special program for students who showed leadership quality and skills. BAP is initiating the Leadership for Tomorrow Program in the fall of 2007. Two juniors, one boy and one girl, from each of the City of Birmingham High Schools will participate in the year long program. These students will be exposed to government, business, cultural events, volunteerism and other opportunities.

During their senior year two students from the previous Leadership class, a boy and a girl, will be selected for this scholarship based on their leadership skills and their use of the knowledge they gained while members of the Leadership Program. These two students will each receive a \$1,500 Peter W. Field Leadership Scholarship to the college or university of their choice.

The BAP Board and Partners extend to Pete's family our deepest sympathy in their great loss.



## DAN WASHBURN

Executive Director  
Alabama High  
School Athletic  
Association Retires

The Birmingham Athletic Partnership congratulates **Dan Washburn** on his 17 years of service to the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA). Washburn left the post this summer.

BAP thanks Dan for his service to the AHSAA and for his unwavering support of BAP since its inception. When BAP was just an idea developing, Dan was invited to give his thoughts. From day one, he has given positive feedback. He and his staff have always been there to answer questions and to guide us. Dan has time and again made himself available to present trophies to BAP teams, to attend functions and to help us in many ways.

We wish for Dan a great retirement — golf, travel, sporting events...whatever his desires.

We also congratulate and welcome Dan's replacement, **Steve Savarese**, and look forward to working with him in the future.

*Congratulations and Good Luck Dan!*



# Corporate Sponsors Help BAP Succeed



## Ligon Industries



“Ligon Industries, my family, and I have been very fortunate to have supported Edgar Welden and BAP since its inception. As someone who grew up in Birmingham and has vivid memories of watching Ennis Whatley, Gerald Crosby, Terry Conner and Buck Johnson play high school basketball, we hope to assist in the return of glory of all Birmingham City Schools’ athletic teams. It is important that the young athletes in the City have the same opportunities that their over the mountain counterparts have, both athletically and academically, and that is the role I see Ligon and myself playing.”

—Jamey McMahon



## PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP



“BAP is committed to positively influencing the lives of children by providing much needed support for various extracurricular activities. Our firm is always looking for ways to give back to the community and BAP is certainly an organization that we are proud to be associated with.”

—Jeff Hicks



## Starnes & Atchison, LLP



“It is very rewarding having an impact on the lives of young people. Athletics improves performance in the classroom by keeping young people disciplined and motivated. Moreover, athletics teaches how to be a team player and how teammates work together for a common goal. BAP supports athletics in the Birmingham City Schools so that these students are given opportunities. BAP impacts every child who attends these schools.”

—Ben Morris



## ACIPCO



“ACIPCO’s involvement with BAP is another way for us to give back to the community. This is an extension of our founder John J. Eagan’s vision for the company to be an asset not only to the workers, but also to the community.”

—Randolph Fowler



## Protective Life



“Working with the Birmingham Athletic Partnership has truly been rewarding to me. I feel I have a hand in shaping the will, honing the talent and developing the character of a unique segment of our community in a positive manner. I feel that every nickel and hour spent will pay dividends

in some way — perhaps these students will become educators, engineers, doctors, lawyers, professional athletes, or community leaders, or simply respected and revered in their chosen vocation. Wherever life takes them, I am expecting and anticipating success — an outcome that would have seriously been just a dream for many of them but for the Birmingham Athletic Partnership.”

—Robert Beeman



## VIVA Health



“The Birmingham Athletic Partnership has given VIVA and myself an opportunity to be directly involved in building communities right in the heart of where those future communities are built — the educational system.”

—Hans Donkersloot



## Alabama Power Company



“BAP is important because it recognizes the disparity that Birmingham City Schools encounter, and rallies the community and corporations that serve those communities to close that gap. This relationship has proven itself to lead by providing more resources for teachers and students,

improved graduation rates, and the perpetuation of continued education.

I am honored to lead Alabama Power Company’s support in this partnership with the Birmingham City Schools. Our goal is simply to make Alabama a better place and to help communities capitalize on their own strengths and seek new heights.”

—Anthony Oni



“I enjoy working with BAP to impact the lives of student athletes in Birmingham. Regions Bank, along with nine other corporations, have invested the resources to make this happen. I am honored by the opportunity to work hand in hand with BAP and the individual schools to make sure that needs are met efficiently.”

—Christopher Leech



## Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C.



“I am thrilled to be part of the great work being done by BAP. Athletics are a powerful force for instilling character and teaching kids about discipline, teamwork, and sacrifice. BAP is giving our coaches and teachers the tools they need to reach city students and spur them to excellence on the field, in the classroom, and in their daily lives.”

—James L. “Jay” Mitchell



## First American Bank

### First American Bank



“It is a pleasure for First American Bank to be a part of an organization such as BAP. BAP has played an integral role in the development of our young student athletes in the City of Birmingham. Funds that BAP has raised over the years, along with the countless hours Edgar Welden, Mike Vest and BAP’s Board of Directors has devoted to insuring the success of the organization, and the establishment of the Business Partners Program is a true testament to the positive impact that can be made on the future leaders of our community.

I thank First American Bank for affording me the opportunity to be involved in an organization that has been well received by the community, school administrators and students.”

—LeDon Jones

### BAP is honored that these corporations and businesses support the students of the Birmingham City High Schools:

- ★ ACIPCO
- ★ Alabama Power
- ★ Amsouth/Regions Bank
- ★ Anthony L. Barnes & Associates, PC
- ★ Cobbs, Allen, and Hall
- ★ Compass Bank
- ★ Employee Benefits Consulting, LLC
- ★ Energen Corporation Matching Fund
- ★ First American Bank
- ★ Hare, Wynne, Newell & Newton
- ★ Ligon Industries
- ★ Maynard, Cooper, and Gale
- ★ MedPlex Pediatric Dentistry, Inc.
- ★ Merrill Lynch
- ★ Morton Bridges
- ★ Motor Carrier Safety Consulting, Inc.
- ★ Pearce, Beville, Leesburg & Moore, PC
- ★ PhysioFitness, LLC
- ★ Pricewaterhouse Coopers
- ★ Protective Life
- ★ Ready Mix USA, LLC
- ★ Starnes & Atchison
- ★ VIVA Health
- ★ Wachovia Bank, N.A.

# Ramsay Lady Rams “Queens of Defense” Four Time State Champions!

Congratulations to the **Ramsay Lady Rams**. They defeated Arab High School 38-31, winning their fourth straight Class 5A State Girls Basketball Championship. The Lady Rams are known for their smothering defense and are definitely the best girls’ team in the state. The State Championship victory was their 28th consecutive win.

Senior **Katherine Graham**, with a 4.0 grade average, was voted MVP of the Championship. She will be attending **LSU** in the fall on a basketball scholarship. Katherine was also voted “Miss Basketball 2007” for the State of Alabama. Ram’s Coach **Robert Mosley**, who was named Coach of the Year, calls Katherine Graham the “best defensive player I have ever coached.”

Another outstanding senior, **Jamelia Kennedy**, will be heading to **South Carolina** on a basketball scholarship.



*The Ramsay Lady Rams won their fourth straight Class 5A State Girls Basketball Championship*

Best wishes to these players as they began their college playing careers.

*Thanks to Coach Mosley and his “Queens of Defense” for another memorable season.*

## CONGRATULATIONS! 2006-2007 City Champions

### Huffman High School

• Softball Champions • Baseball Champions

### Parker High School

• Football BAP City Champions • Track Champions

### Ramsay High School

• Girls Basketball Champions • Volleyball Champions

### Hayes High School

• Boys Basketball Champions

BAP is pleased that through the generosity of our supporters, each of the teams listed above benefited by receiving equipment, uniforms, training and/or other items.



## DID YOU KNOW...

### Quotes and Statistics on the Value of Sports and Related Activities

*An Athletic Association study comparing the performance of athletes vs. non-athletes*

	Athletes	Non-Athletes
■ Grade Point Average	2.86	1.96
■ Average number of absences per 180-day school year	6.52 days	12.57 days
■ Discipline referrals	30.51%	40.29%
■ Dropout rate	0.7%	8.98%
■ Graduation rate	99.56%	94.66%

*Teens that are unsupervised during the hours after school are far more likely to use alcohol, drugs, and tobacco, engage in criminal and other high-risk behaviors, receive poor grades, and drop out of school than those children who have the opportunity to benefit from constructive activities supervised by responsible adults.*

—National Education Commission on Time and Learning



# BAP SPOTLIGHT

# MARY GANTT

Former BAP Executive Director



**A**s we celebrate BAP's 5th Anniversary, we recognize Board Member **Mary Gantt**. Mary has been deeply involved with BAP since its inception. In fact, she served as part-time Executive Director because there was a need. Need is the reason BAP was founded in the first place. Mary served in this position out of necessity until BAP was able to hire a full-time Executive Director. Not being from Birmingham, her first challenge was to learn the locations of all of the City High Schools.

She has witnessed the growth and strengthening of the mission and the impact that BAP's supporters have made on the programs in the City of Birmingham High Schools. She worked closely with the Board when serving as Executive Director and spent countless hours with the coaches and sponsors from all of the schools trying to help their programs. Her dedication and commitment to BAP and those it serves is deep and strong. Mary continues her dedication and involvement by serving as a BAP Board Member.

She loved getting to know the students and hearing their dreams and plans for the future. She is proud that she has been able to be a part of something so worthwhile and is pleased with the successes of the organization.

*Thank you Mary for all you have done and continue to do.*

## Edgar Welden BAP Founder & President Inducted Into AHSAA Sports Hall of Fame

**W**e congratulate our BAP President, **Edgar Welden** on being inducted into the **Alabama High School Athletic Association Sports Hall of Fame** in Montgomery in March.

We are all aware of Edgar's passion for sports and we know what a friend he is to the sports community.

He was involved in the development of the Final Four Basketball tournament; serves as President of the Bryant-Jordan Foundation; is Chairman of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame; just to name a few of his roles that involve athletics in Alabama.

**Bill Legg**, Executive Director of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, said, "Edgar has contributed greatly to the high school athletic programs here in Birmingham...The newly established BAP Corporate Program is a win-win program for the kids, schools and the City of Birmingham."

*Congratulations, Edgar!*



## SLIDING IN... Headfirst

*Michael Vest, BAP Executive Director*



**T**here are reports that Napoleon wrote over 50,000 letters in his lifetime, thereby justifying him as a great writer. I, on the other hand, must honestly say that of all my

many weaknesses, writing can easily be near the top of my list. Having that said, however, when it comes to writing about how wonderful the students are in the City High Schools, the words come effortlessly.

As I walk through the nine high schools I am constantly greeted with warm smiles and hellos. When I deliver BAP purchased equipment to the schools, the applause sound as if they could be heard all over Birmingham. Some of these kids are so appreciative it can bring tears to your eyes.

I am inspired each time I attend functions, games or other events where I witness memorable and impressive achievements by these remarkable students. Only a few of these stories are included in this newsletter but they are very special. For instance, the Ramsay Lady Rams recently won their fourth straight State Championship! These girls only know winning. Ivan Jones played a trombone purchased by BAP in the Hayes band. He has received the Bill Gates Millennium Scholar Award and has a once in a lifetime opportunity to go to any college he chooses through a doctorate degree.

We believe that success breeds success. Each success is an inspiration to another kid looking on. On occasion, an accomplishment by one student can become the catalyst for another to set higher goals or to take a chance.

You are our partner. You are who makes our commitment to these students a possibility. There are hundreds of students in the city schools who are excelling and who have goals in pursuing a higher education. These students will be some of the leaders of tomorrow. We want to help elevate their chances of learning and of competing.

I am always open to hear your thoughts and ideas. And, I will always have a story to share about outstanding students not mentioned in this newsletter.



# BAP SAYS “THANKS”

*BAP thanks all who have helped make a difference for our city’s youth and hope that support for our mission and help for these programs will continue to grow. On behalf of the student-athletes — Thank you.*

## Thanks to Our Individual Contributors — Your Help Has Made a Big Difference in Our Success!

- ★ Dr. Max Austin, Jr. ★ Jeffrey Beau ★ John B. Blalock
- ★ Clint E. Bruess ★ Dr. Pete Bunting ★ Mr. Richard S. Canterbury
- ★ Amy Carter ★ Mr. and Mrs. John F. Carter
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- ★ Thomas and Catherine Luckie ★ Fiona & Samuel McCord
- ★ Captain (Ret) Van L. McCullough ★ Barbara McElroy
- ★ Mr. Travis McGowin ★ John P. McKleroy, Jr.
- ★ Oakley W. Melton, III ★ Ira C. Mitchell, Jr. ★ Mr. Mac M. Moorer
- ★ Larry Morris ★ Mr. and Mrs. Whitney G. Morgan
- ★ James Scott Myers ★ Mitch and Donna Nelson
- ★ Claude and Kate Nielsen ★ John P. North
- ★ Henry Craft O’Neal ★ Michael O’Neal ★ Mr. Richard F. Ogle
- ★ Mr. James “Jim” Owens, III ★ Mr. Bruce Pettway
- ★ Steve and Carolyn Phelan ★ Karen Pierce
- ★ Fred and Bette Powell ★ Bette Weaver Powell
- ★ Mr. and Mrs. James W. Rainer, Jr. ★ Jake and Madaline Reiss
- ★ Mr. Fred Renneker, III ★ Dr. Charles Robinett
- ★ Ronald and Lera Roddam ★ Scott R. and Lynne F. Russell
- ★ F. Don Siegal ★ Henry E. Simpson ★ Carl B. Smith
- ★ Clinton Hill and Helen Catherine Smith
- ★ Fred B. and Ann M. Smith ★ James A. and Elizabeth D. Smith
- ★ Bruce Sokol ★ Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Sparks
- ★ Mr. and Mrs. Charlie and Linda Stewart ★ Mr. Eugene P. Stutts
- ★ Mr. Russell R. Stutts, Jr. ★ Mr. and Mrs. Hall W. Thompson
- ★ C. Kenslo and Mary H. Thompson ★ Rich and Debbie Townsend
- ★ Dr. Albert J. and Antoinette L. Tully, Jr.
- ★ Mr. and Mrs. William Walker, III ★ Bill Welden
- ★ Wayne and Frederica G. White ★ Charles S. Wilcox, Jr.
- ★ Mr. Hunter Williams ★ Mr. Ronald K. Wilson
- ★ David and Laura Woodruff

*Thanks to your tax-deductible donations, and the dedicated efforts of our volunteers, BAP has been able to make a real difference!*

### BAP salutes the following Foundations and Entities for their support of the students of the Birmingham City High Schools:

- ★ Altec/Styslinger Foundation
- ★ Birmingham Tip-Off Club/Foundation
- ★ The Clor Charitable Foundation
- ★ The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
- ★ The Crowe Foundation
- ★ The Daniel Foundation
- ★ Daniel Drennen II Foundation
- ★ Day Family Foundation
- ★ Hillcrest Foundation
- ★ Jefferson County Commission
- ★ Hugh Kaul Foundation
- ★ Kiwanis Club of Birmingham Foundation
- ★ Robert R. Meyer Foundation
- ★ Alex W. Newton Foundation
- ★ National Christian Foundation
- ★ Pete Field Foundation
- ★ Pleiad Foundation
- ★ Protective Life Foundation
- ★ Rotary Club of Birmingham Foundation

### Thanks for All You Do... BAP Acknowledges the Birmingham City Board of Education

BAP is proud of continued help and support of the education leadership in the City of Birmingham.

Since accepting his position as Superintendent, **Dr. Stan Mims** has made time for BAP and has had an open door policy to meet with us and hear our thoughts and ideas.

Board President **Odessa Ashley**; Vice President **W.J. Maye**; Board Members **Carolyn Hollman Cobb**; **Mike Higginbotham**; **Dr. Dannetta K. Thornton**; **Virginia Volker**; **April Williams**; **Martha Wixom** and **Phyllis Wynne** have continued their dedicated service to the students in the city and have been supported of the BAP program.

The Birmingham City Schools’ Athletic Department continues to work to assure that the students in physical education and athletics have a voice. Special thanks to **Coach George Moore**, **Dr. Sherri Huff** and **Cora Colley**.

*Thanks to each of you for your commitment to the future of the young people of Birmingham.*

## Special Contributions

- ★ **In Honor of Cullen Crowe**  
Amy Carter, Paige and Tom Cawthon  
Mr. and Mrs. James H. Crenshaw
- ★ **In Honor of Jerry Duncan**  
Mr. Bruce Sokol
- ★ **In Honor of Coaches Matt Aiken & Andy Odum**  
The players and families of the Mountain Brook 76ers
- ★ **In Honor of Edgar Welden**  
Fred and Bette Powell, Mr. Fred Renneker, III,  
Mr. Bruce Sokol, Mr. Don Siegal
- ★ **In Memory of Bobo Jones**  
Mr. and Mrs. George "Snoozy" Jones
- ★ **In Memory of Tom E. Rast**  
Ronald and Lera Roddam

## Thanks to Our In-Kind Contributors

- ★ The Amos Family
- ★ The Drummond Family
- ★ The Godwin Family
- ★ The Kolber Family
- ★ The Reiss Family
- ★ Alabama Sports Hall of Fame
- ★ Birmingham Southern College
- ★ Mountain Brook High School
- ★ Regions Bank
- ★ Royal Leasing
- ★ Samford University
- ★ UAB Baseball
- ★ Vestavia Hills High School

## Thanks to Our Special Volunteers

- ★ **Glenda Love**, who does our bookkeeping, provides accounting and tax services.
- ★ **Jack Durham** of J. Durham Design, LLC, who has supported BAP since we began by designing our logo and each of our newsletters.



Members of the Parker High School basketball program were on hand at this year's BAP Media Day.



**Birmingham  
Athletic  
Partnership**

**JOIN US TODAY!  
Be a Part of  
Something  
Important!**

## I WANT TO HELP BAP!

Here is my contribution to BAP in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE NOTE:

BAP does not give money to the teams or the schools and only purchases equipment based on needs. However, at your request, **your contribution can be earmarked** for a certain school, band, team or other specific request.

Please direct my contribution to: \_\_\_\_\_

## IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALSO VERY IMPORTANT!

Check your closets, garages and attics to see if you have equipment or instruments that are **in good condition** and that you feel BAP could use to assist these high school student-athletes.

## MEMORIALS & HONORIUMS

A donation to BAP in honor or in memory of a friend or loved one is a unique and thoughtful gift. We express our appreciation for each contribution by sending a card to the person or family (amounts are not mentioned) and an acknowledgment to the giver.

- Memorial Gift:** Honors the memory of a friend or family member  
Person to be remembered:  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Honorary Gift:** Pays tribute to a special person by remembering a special day, such as birthdays or holidays. Person honored:  
Occasion:  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Please send an honorary/memorial card to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORM WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO:

Birmingham Athletic Partnership  
1029 22nd Street South  
Birmingham, Alabama 35205



1029 22nd Street South  
Birmingham, Alabama 35205

**Telephone: 205/250-9001**

**E-mail: BHAMAP@aol.com**

**www.bapteam.org**

*The Torchlight* is the newsletter of the Birmingham Athletic Partnership, a non-profit 501 (c) corporation founded 2002, which is dedicated to assist the Birmingham City High Schools' Athletic Departments and related organizations. BAP is committed to be a resource that will enhance the athletic departments' abilities to provide the necessary leadership, education, facilities and equipment to assure that students have opportunities to excel in their interest in sports and related extra-curricular activities.

#### **THE BAP BOARD**

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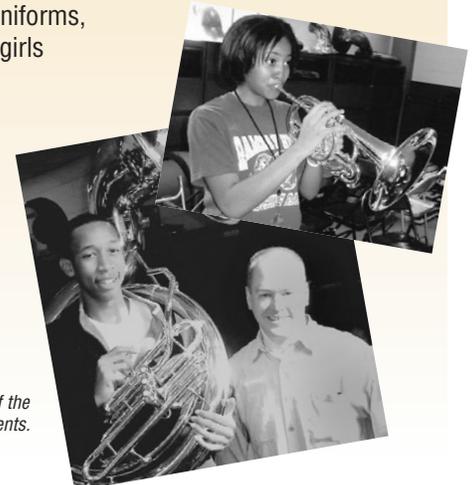
## Since Our Last Newsletter...

In addition to other items in this newsletter, we have been busy upgrading equipment and providing other support for the City High Schools:

- ★ Sent students to softball, baseball, basketball, volleyball, track, football and cheerleading camps
- ★ Sponsored coaches attendance at football, volleyball, baseball, basketball and cheerleading clinics
- ★ Provided hydration systems for all of the football programs
- ★ Sponsored trainer internships
- ★ Purchased cheerleading mats for six high schools
- ★ Purchased uniforms for Wenonah boys and girls basketball teams and softball team, Woodlawn track uniforms, Parker girls basketball uniforms, West End girls basketball uniforms and football jerseys
- ★ Purchased band instruments for Ramsay, Hayes, Wenonah, West End and Woodlawn bands
- ★ Provided tennis racquets and tennis balls
- ★ Purchased track equipment for Woodlawn and Jackson-Olin
- ★ Helped with the funding for Ramsay's girls and boys State Championship rings



West End coach Jimmy Titus and corporate representative Robert Beeman of Protective Life show off West End's new uniform.



(Right) Jamey McMahon, Ligon Industries, joins members of the Ramsay Band trying out their new instruments.